**Ottawa through a camera lens Pages 16, 17**

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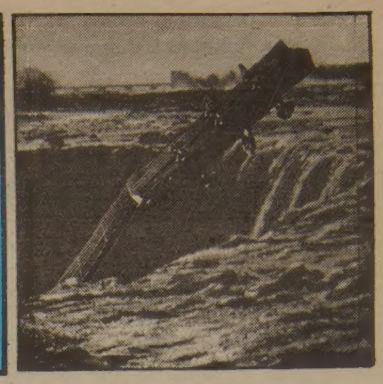

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# NIAGARA NEWS

VOLUME 27, NO.14 —FREE— MARCH 21, 1997


**YUK YUK'S Offers Students & Alumni Comedy Relief** *(see pages. 4, 5 & 14)*

## *Artistry takes flight*

In the Spotlight, pages 10, 11 features skin art. Tattoo by Justin Winstanley at Artistic Impressions in St. Catharines. Model: Keri-Lynn Smith

Photo by Chris Green

# Patterson seeks new partnerships

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Niagara College President Dan Patterson had lunch at John Deere last Monday. The week before he met with Donohue Corp. executives in Thorold. Two weeks ago he visited Fleet Industries in Fort Erie.

PATTERSON

He said the trips were a combination of fund-raising and "cold-calling" for training opportunities. These activities will continue even with the appointment of a new executive director for development, expected today.

Patterson said the college has "an ongoing relationship with Fleet and Donohue," traditionally in areas of co-op activities and some contract training of workers.

"Now we are looking at a new relationship in the area of education and industry partnerships."

Under such an agreement, Niagara College would provide education and training needs for the existing workforce.

"What we're trying to achieve," said Patterson, "is a relationship where industry increases co-op arrangements, faculty exchanges (technical updating for teachers) and ongoing training for workers."

The college president said he sees these initiatives as an important source of revenue and "essential to the philosophy of an enterprising college" whose goal is building the skills and knowledge of students for the 21st century.

Fund-raising initiatives with industry are important too, especially with half the funds for the $6-million Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake raised.

Patterson said since the $3 million half-way mark was reached "we've slowed down and need to jump start the capital campaign."

(Continued on page 3)

# College hits jackpot with casino program

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Casino Niagara has opened another door to employment, and Niagara College is providing the training.

The Gaming Machine Repairer program trains people to fix the noisy, colorful games in a casino.

The course is "excellent," said Joyce McCool, program co-ordinator.

"Everyone who passed the course (last summer) was accepted to work at the casino," she said, adding the qualification probably does not extend to casinos in the United States because "the rules are different there."

"The 15-week program's purpose," said the Gaming Machine Repairer Program information sheet, "is to familiarize 25 participants with the operation, installation, troubleshooting and repair of modern microprocessor-controlled gaming machines including video lottery terminals." The information sheet is provided by Niagara College and Human Resources Development Canada (HRDC).

"We had 364 applications for the 25 seats" offered this term, said McCool.

23 students of the original 25 remain. Unfortunately for those on the waiting list, "once the course is started there is no way to enter part way through," said the co-ordinator.

The schedule includes four hours of "theory" in the morning, and afternoons of "hands-on training," five days a week.

Jim Barden handles the repair training, and Rena Posteraro deals with slot operations and customer service.

The students "are very heavily into the games with a little customer service" training, since graduates will be repairing machines

(Continued on page 3)

## *SAC fee up to $132*

By MELISSA LABBE
Staff Writer

Niagara College's Student Administrative Council (SAC) made a loonie increase to the SAC fee for the 1997-98 academic year. It's expected to generate approximately $4,500.

Elections to fill two vacant SAC posts resulted in Anoop Chugh winning the vice-president internal chair in a close race. The SAC vice-president athletics' chair remains open.

The increase in fees resulted when Don Woodruff, SAC vice-president, moved the SAC portion of student fees be raised from $131 to $132 at the March 5 meeting.

"I could only justify a dollar increase," said Woodruff.

The increase will benefit students by eliminating the sitting fee for graduation photographs, "saving individual students $4.85."

(Continued on page 3)

# 'Outstanding' trip

By JENNIFER GIBSON
Staff Writer

A winter wilderness adventure taught students the meaning of friendship.

During the March Break, 17 Niagara College students and two facilitators, Valerie Grabove and Bert Murphy, drove about 1,000 kilometres north to learn about friendship, nature and survival.

"The trip was outstanding," said Grabove, professor of English and communications.

Overall the trip was "a success," despite being pulled over by the Quebec provincial police (Surete du Quebec) after taking a route through Quebec to avoid the bad road conditions in Ontario.

There was one accident where Jim Kovacs, 26, a Mechanical Engineering program student, caught his hand in a conabear trap. He was not injured.

There were no other accidents except a mishap between one of the sledding dogs and Derek Janke, 22, a Mechanical Engineering program student.

"One of the dogs mistook Derek for a tree," said Grabove.

The group stopped in Temagami, Ont., to explore environmental issues, forest management and logging rights.

"The trip itself was excellent," said Kevin Banfield, 20, a Recreation Leadership program student. "We learned a lot about the advantages of selective cutting and clear cutting and why it's important to have old growth forests."

"We also learned a different perspective on trapping," said Banfield. "Instead of getting a biased opinion from activist groups we got to see how it actually is done. It's a humane way of trapping."

The group went to Patten River Camp, a trappers' camp, near Cochrane, Ont., operated by Robert

(Continued on page 6)

# Partnership provides 'one of a kind' education

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Students of winemaking will find Brock University and Niagara College partnering to provide a "one of a kind" education.

Brock University in St. Catharines is offering an undergraduate degree program in oenology and viticulture, the modern art of winemaking.

Niagara College "might complement the course" by assisting in research and sharing experience in practical, industry-related programs, said Niagara College President Dan Patterson.

He said the program provides "specific education with the technology of winemaking."

The Cool Climate Oenology and Viticulture Institute at Brock focuses on "enhancing and co-ordinating research and technology important to the grape and wine industry."

Marketing and tourism skills are taught along with such industry essentials as wine analysis, fermentation technology, wine microbiology and the sensory evaluation of wines.

Practical skills are cultivated through internships with vineyard operators and wineries.

This program is an example of the region's two post-secondary educational institutions working together. With such partnerships will come "funds to promote stronger linkages between the two schools," said Patterson.

The facilities and experience at Niagara College's Maid of the Mist Centre for Hospitality and Tourism in Niagara Falls, Ont., will be a resource for the viticulture students under the partnership.

The reputation of Canadian wines on the world market has been improving. The institute aims to improve it further through research and development of technology and product.

A key role of the institute, part of the Faculty of Mathematics and Science at Brock, is to provide information on trends, technology and other developments within the industry.

The program is a "concrete example" of Niagara and Brock's "mutual interests for mutual benefits," said Patterson.

# *Free, skilled assistance helps pay the taxman*

By SHELLEY PARKES
Staff Writer

There is still time to have your income tax return processed free of charge.

Volunteer students from Niagara College's Business Administration and Accounting programs have been E-filing income tax returns, free of charge for Niagara College students since March 3.

Returns will be filed in the Comfort Zone's room until March 27.

Lorraine Caverly, 38, a second-year Business Administration student from Sherkston, Ont., volunteers on Mondays and Fridays.

"Students fill out a form," she said. "We type in all the information into the computer."

Once a day Revenue Canada comes to the college to pick up the disk and envelopes with forms and receipts. In about two weeks people should get their refunds, Caverly said.

"It is easy work. Everything adds and subtracts on its own," she said. "It's a lot faster, and it is correct."

Since the service began about 50 refunds have been E-filed.

Wayne LeBlanc, 20, a first-year student in the Law and Security Administration program, from Niagara Falls, took advantage of the free service on March 17.

He said he usually goes to H&R Block, but because "it is convenient" he came to the college.

"It's all good," said LeBlanc. "It's very nice of them."

# Using Internet requires respect

By DEBRA BRIGHT
Staff Writer

Negative and positive, good or bad — for everything there is an opposite.

The use of the Internet has made life easier for many people, but this faceless form of communication has also created problems, says Beth Weldon, Niagara College's director of information services.

People tend to forget when they sit in front of a keyboard that they're communicating with someone in very much the same way as they would on the telephone.

"They feel free to say and do a lot of things they wouldn't do in person. You can be anybody or say anything and that can be pretty disastrous if a friendship is formed on that basis," said Weldon.

We've all heard stories about how a couple met on the Internet, formed a relationship and later married, but the chances of that happening are slim.

There are a lot more horror stories than success stories.

Just a couple of weeks ago a relationship that started on the Internet ended in a double suicide.

The two men involved were from Orillia, Ont. and Chicago, Ill. They met at a Howard Johnson's Hotel in Toronto and committed suicide by means of a drug recipe they found on the Internet.

Chat lines can be great friend-making tools, but they should be used with caution, said Weldon.

"Don't let on who you are or where you are."

She said there's a fine line to step over and say "Call me."

About 3,700 students at the college have valid E-mail accounts.

When they get their account they have to sign an agreement that states they'll maintain good network citizenship, said Weldon.

Many people don't realize that when they're using E-mail, the computer messages produce a lasting record of the communication.

For this reason, students should remember to monitor their language so that it isn't offensive.

It's also a criminal offense to engage in certain types of activity.

When you write a negative comment about a person, that person could take civil action against you for libel, slander or defamation of character.

Weldon also warned about becoming prey for anonymous junk mailers. Most marketing messages are unsolicited and can't be tracked.

"This is a problem that is increasing everyday and should be avoided at all costs."

The Internet contains a vast body of knowledge and there's no limit as to what one can find.

Weldon said she rarely has to open a manual because she can look for the information on the Net.

"What used to take weeks can now take minutes to find."

Students are encouraged to take advantage of the Internet, but should use it wisely and with respect for other people.

Also, be careful not to become addicted to the Internet.

It can be mysterious and thrilling, but many experienced netters see Internet addiction as a common phenomenon.

## Bloomin' open house

Niagara College first-year Horticulture program students prepare for the 29th annual horticultural open house on Saturday and Sunday. Students from left are Justyne Zalewski, 18, of Hamilton, Steve Pickett, 21, and Jamie Gale, 20, both of Elliot Lake, Ont., and Kelly Bredin, 22, of Niagara Falls, Ont. The open house and sale begins tomorrow at 9 a.m. The college Horticultural Centre is on Niagara Street in St. Catharines.
**Photo by Gord Wittenberg**

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# THE STORY CONTINUES

## *Board will debate budget on April 10*

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

Niagara College's proposed $50-million daily operations budget for the 1997-98 school year is going to the Board of Governors for approval on April 10.

Since the provincial government didn't come out with tuition rates until February, the main problems the college administration is having with budgeting for the next school year stem from an uncertain increase in operating costs based on "the cost of centrally negotiated salary increases and other costs beyond the college's control," said Hans van der Slagt, vice-president, administrative services for Niagara College.

Another is the $200,000 in provincial transfer payments "lost to college (system) wide initiatives," said Niagara College President Dan Patterson.

The amount proposed is "just shy" of $50-million, said van der Slagt.

Niagara is going into the 1997-98 academic year with a $1.5-million deficit.

Funds raised by the college's capital campaign are intended solely for the building of the new campus. The operating budget is aimed at the daily cost of running the college.

The funds directed to the college by the government come from two separate "envelopes," said Patterson.

"One is for the ongoing operations of the college's programs and services, the other is for capital expenses — the infrastructure of the system." They are two separate "funding streams" and they do not mix.

To justify the use of $32 million to build a new campus for a college that had to cancel programs for a lack of funding last year, Patterson said, "If we said we'd rather have a nursing program than the new building the government would say 'Well if you don't want the building . . .'" and not allocate the money at all.

"There is no simple solution to the complex array of budgeting envelopes we are currently enmeshed in," said Patterson. "There will always be debate on where money should be put.

"Budget issues require change," said Patterson, adding the "status quo" is dangerous and hinders development for post-secondary institutions.

## *Competition 'fierce' in fund-raising search*

(Continued from page 1)

He said the new executive director, development for The college has been "fortunate Don Johnston (chief executive officer of the Niagara College Foundation) has been in touch with major corporate clients and worked so hard to turn $3 million in pledges into actual cash flow," said Patterson.

Johnston is moving into semi-retirement, but Patterson said he hopes Johnston will stay on part-time "to train and orient the new director who's first task will be to set the strategy to complete the $6 million (fund-raising) goal before September 1998," when the new facility is scheduled to open.

Competition for funds is "fierce," said Patterson. With so many groups fund-raising in Niagara Region, "it stretches the community funds with competing requests."

Patterson said there has been a shift in the way people are securing funds and because of this the "president's role has shifted" to include spending time fund-raising.

Still, Patterson said "most of the pledges have been honored."

"The fund-raising mindset for Niagara College in industry and the community is that the businesses and groups around us will be more likely to support us."

# Increase: 'It's not justified'

(Continued from page 1)

Jason Chase, SAC president, was the only person opposing the increase. "It's not justified," said Chase, adding he feels this way in light of the unused honorariums from two jobs eliminated within SAC.

In response to this, Woodruff said, "I wouldn't say there is a surplus (of funds)." Woodruff then listed several SAC expenses including the bulletin boards throughout the college and future SAC expenses for the new campus.

At a SAC meeting on Feb. 26, when the increase was discussed but no motion was passed, Lou DiMattio, SAC liaison, supported the increase. "You never know when enrolment will decrease, but tuition fees will probably go up. We certainly do not want to raise our fee 10 per cent."

In other SAC news, Chugh, 23, a first-year Mechanical Engineer program student, will be SAC's vice-president internal for the 1997-98 school year. The elections took place during the week of March 3 to 7.

Chugh said his motivation to run came from past experience. "I was on students' council for five years in high school and we really got a lot accomplished."

He said he also took into consideration people's ideas for changes. "Not that SAC is not doing a great job now, but there's always room for improvement."

Chugh said it was a "very close" vote between himself and running mate Roxane Reid, an Educational Resources and Special Needs program student, adding the overall voter turnout was poor.

Upcoming for SAC is the annual general meeting on March 27 in S211 at the Welland campus. All students are welcome to attend.

Constitutional matters will dominate the meeting's agenda.

Chase said generally the student turnout for the annual meeting is poor, but he added he thinks more students would come to the meeting if they realized "they have power."

Niagara College Maid of the Mist Center provides a future in gaming.

Photo by Gretta Rossi

# Program's graduates finding jobs

(Continued from page 1)

on the casino floor while customers are still playing around them.

McCool is co-ordinating the program for the first time but said the Gaming Machine Repairer program is "wonderful. It's great."

Barden comes to Niagara from St. Clair College in Windsor, Ont.

"I am the only certified slot instructor in Canada," said Barden, who taught the first gaming machine repairer course last summer.

McCool said St. Clair and Niagara are the only colleges in Ontario to offer this program.

Barden said graduates of courses he has taught have gone on to become chief technicians at the Windsor casino and Casino Niagara. There is a 95 per cent job placement rate of graduates in the Ontario casino industry.

One graduate is working for the Bally slot machine company, said Barden, adding the course leads to "upward mobility in the industry."

There are two manufacturers of slot machines — Bally and International Gaming Technology (IGT).

Bally's and IGT's machines have different inner workings, but all the machines made by one company are pretty much the same inside, despite the different facades, said McCool. "Graduates will be able to tear down and completely rebuild either make of machine."

To be accepted for the program, an applicant must be at least 19 years of age, have completed Grade 12 or the equivalent and have successfully completed one year of electronics experience. They must have been eligible to receive either Employment Insurance benefits in the last three years or parental/maternity benefits within the past five years.

HRDC funds the program "100 per cent," said McCool.

The program started Jan. 20 and ends May 2.

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# Libraries entering the new millennium

By DEBRA BRIGHT
Staff Writer

The face of libraries is changing.

The needs these changes represent were taken into account when planning the Library Resource Centre (LRC) at the new Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake.

Initial planning began some years ago.

Students and staff were asked their opinion as to what they would like to see in a library, said Trish Labonte, the college's head librarian.

This information was gathered through surveys, interviews and classroom consultations.

A student planning committee was formed to help with brainstorming and planning.

Some of the needs cited by students included more group study rooms, a place that was bright and a place where they could sit and read comfortably.

They also wanted the new LRC to be equipped with a variety of multimedia data connections that would allow them to work as a group or independently.

They want places where they could plug their laptops into a multimedia show and work as a group, as well as places where they could work independently, said Labonte.

The students wanted to be able to retrieve information quickly, download it onto disk and scan it to create an essay in a different form — referred to as an electronic essay by Labonte.

Staff said they wanted space to be able to teach students how to use the Internet, as well as an area to do

processing, downloading and creating satellite links for the distribution of information to classrooms.

Equipped with this information, a functional plan was formed.

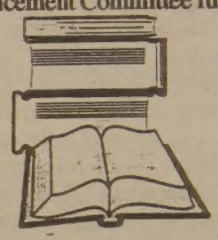
Warren Yule, master planner and project manager, worked with the architectural firm of Moffat-Kinoshito to create the amount of space that these needs represented.

When they completed the plan, they wanted the LRC to be in the centre of the U-shaped building because of its multi-dimensional role.

Labonte worked with Margaret Beckman, an internationally renowned library planning consultant. Labonte made additional suggestions and adjustments.

When the Glendale campus opens in September 1998, it is expected to have a highly functional LRC capable of meeting the technological needs of students and staff.

Through Student Technology Enhancement Committee funding,



the Welland LRC is being updated.

When it was built, future computer needs weren't realized, said Labonte.

"Our first goal is to get the wiring updated, so we can add more computer stations."

Other plans for the Welland LRC include improving the lighting, painting and re-designing the front entrance and re-organizing book stacks to create more space.

Yule and Labonte said future LRC goals include creating web page links to assist students with their academics.

"We're on the brink of that now," said Labonte.

As we enter the new millennium, the virtual library of the future will be able to meet the technological demands required in these changing times, she said.

# Vote in student representative election

By HEATHER BURTON
Staff Writer

The nominations are in.

Scott Budgell and Jason Chase are the two candidates nominated for the student representative position on the Niagara College Board of Governors.

Budgell, a student in the Computer Programmer/Analyst program, and Chase, a Public Relations Post-Diploma program student, will be campaigning from March 17 to March 30.

The election will be held on March 31and April 1 and 2 between 10 a.m. and 3 p.m. at the following locations: Welland campus, SE-104 and H-21; the Horticultural Centre in St. Catharines; Maid of the Mist Centre in Niagara Falls; Mack Nursing Education Centre in St. Catharines and the St. Catharines campus, Main Office, second floor.

Voting will also be held on the above dates from 6:30 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. in the Continuing Education Office at H-21, Welland campus and in the Second Floor Office in the St. Catharines campus.

Those eligible to vote are full-time and part-time students enrolled in a certificate or diploma program as of Feb. 1 and adult training students attending the college as of Feb. 1. In order to cast your vote, your name must be on the voters' list by March 24.

# Peeking at the future

By HEATHER HUNTER
Staff Writer

Wondering what your future holds? You can take a peek at what's to come with a renowned expert.

John Naisbitt, futurist and author of the best seller Global Paradox and Megatrends 2000, will be speaking at the University

The question and answer session is open to Brock University and Niagara College students.

Naisbitt is an expert at outlining future trends and important ideas shaping the world and businesses. Playhouse at St. Catharines' Brock University on Thursday, March 27 from 2:30 p.m. to 4 p.m.

He will be discussing opportunities linked to significant trends in Asia, predictions of world trends, and the impact of coming trends on organizations and industries.

There will be an informal luncheon with Naisbitt on March 27 from 12 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.

# *How do you say 'success'?*

By PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

Say "great success" in Spanish.

For 31 students, that phrase was part of an out-of-country Niagara College Continuing Education course called Study Spanish in Costa Rica.

Taralea McLean, development officer for the Continuing Education department, said there was a great turnout.

## *Costa Rica welcomes students*

Outings included visits to a volcano, an indigenous tribe, a banana plantation and the city of Panama. Some students visited San Jose, Costa Rica's capital.

Ordering food at a "real Spanish restaurant" required the local language.

The sole drawback, McLean said, was that it "rained steady" for two weeks.

"It was a real obstacle. It put a damper on a lot of the activities that the students could participate in."

The course will be offered again.

"For the first effort, it was a real success," McLean said.

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WARNING TO STUDENTS:
Theft and fraud are both CRIMINAL OFFENCES.
If caught, the police are called and you may be charged!
This announcement is part of a group project by LASA students in the Community Policing course.

# A cultural one-stop shop for local artists

By TANYA BRYAN
Staff Writer

Niagara Artists' Company (NAC) is working with the Quasi Cafe and the Garage to create a cultural one-stop shop.

"There's a lot of good art in Niagara and there really isn't a lot of it being seen consistently so people will be able to get a very good idea, in one stop, (of) a whole mixture of creative practice," said Tobey C. Anderson, NAC director.

"The way we describe what NAC does is that we're an interdisciplinary contemporary art centre, which includes all media and all art forms. The kind of slant we want to be doing is we're trying to support original work, creation of new work, and present contemporary art practice."

NAC, upstairs at 2 Bond St., St. Catharines, has a mini-library featuring information about Canadian artist-run centres, public galleries, artists' organizations and grants. It also houses periodicals, current art magazines and offers an archive of its own activities. An Internet web site, Anderson said, will provide a database of local artists and art organizations.

Although it has been part of St. Catharines for almost 30 years, many people are unaware of NAC.

"I've been here with NAC since 1990 and there's an amazing amount of people, especially on bigger events that draw the broader community, where people will come up and say 'I never knew this place existed.'"

This caused some problems for the company when it moved to its permanent location almost two years ago.

"Some people didn't know who we were in the neighborhood and so there was fairly strong opposition to what we were doing," said Anderson. To comply with building safety codes, a furnace and new staircase were added. The cafe operators attended a liquor licence hearing to get a permit.

"The cafe came out all right and everybody had a better understanding of what we were doing. But the scrutiny has been pretty tight."

Anderson describes the downstairs area, which consists of the Quasi Cafe and the Garage, as being like a studio. "And it's intended to be an art gallery and a performance space.

"We've been using the space downstairs . . . so we have this partnership in the building with the Quasi, . . . there is this kind of mixture. Some people just think this whole building is NAC. We're not too concerned about that. We tend to think of 2 Bond St. as a cultural destination."

The Quasi works with other organizations, such as AIDS Niagara and Performance Artists Niagara, to present various types of music and performances.

Recently the whole facility was involved in an International Women's Day Celebration called Arts and Tarts. On Sunday, March 9, a visual art exhibit reception and silent auction bake sale raised funds for artists' fees and related expenses.

The exhibit features artwork by 18 women NAC members and runs until April 5. The Garage hosted a wall-to-wall crowd for the Fifth Annual Benefit for Women's Place with musical guests Women in Music.

NAC's galleries are open Tuesday to Saturday from noon to 5 p.m. Admission is free. Call 641-0331 for more information.

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# Students did team-building exercises before trip

(Continued from page 1)

Stitt where they had to learn to fend for themselves.

"We had to prepare meals, some of the nights, for the whole group," said Kovacs.

"We had to fetch our own water from a hole in the ice at Patten River Camp. We had to hike 17 kilometres into the camp on snowshoes in four feet of snow."

"It was on average -22 degrees Celsius," said Grabove.

The price of the trip was $400. This included a week of transportation, guides and some meals, said Brent Shergold, 22, a Mechanical Engineering program student.

In order to prepare for the trip, the students did some team-building exercises to get aquainted.

"They were good for me because I'm super shy and I kinda opened up," said Janke.

"It wasn't just one game that helped me open up it was a combination of the games," he said.

"I expected to meet new people on this trip and I met new friends," said Jason Nicks, 26, a Mechanical Engineering program student.

"I went to Daytona (Fla.) in my first year of college and this blew it away. I had a lot more fun," said Nicks.

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"I thought it (the trip) was very valuable it gave us a variety in our courses," said Derek Broerse, a Mechanical Engineering program student. "It gave us a chance to have some diversity and to meet new friends."

The trip was "very professionally organized and well worth the cost," said Janke.

Simultaneously the group said,"It allowed us to make great friendships."

The Niagara College winter wilderness adventurers are about to embark on a 17 km trek on snowshoes into Patten River Camp.

Photo by Jason Nicks

# Student exchange worth exploring

By GRETTA ROSSI
Staff Writer

The Ontario Baden-Wurttemberg College Student Exchange Program (OBW) is an opportunity worth looking into.

The OBW program is open to all college students in Ontario who have basic German language skills, have have an above-average academic standing and have completed at least one work placement.

To be qualified to apply and participate in the OBW program you must also have a recommendation from your program coordinator or co-op consultant. You must also be selected by members of the Program Steering Committee according to certain criteria. It is necessary to be accepted by a Berufsakademie and one of its training firms. You must also be willing to help with the placement of a student from Baden-Wurttemberg in Ontario. Finally you must be able to show that you can support yourself for the duration of the work placement.

This program is open to students from the 23 colleges across Ontario.

At Niagara College the contact person appointed to inform students is Leo Tiberi, director of the Information and Computer Technology Division. His office is in L8.

To apply to OBW, you should send your application about six months prior to the desired placement period.

For placement period from January to April apply no later than Oct. 15, for placement from May to August apply no later than Feb. 15, and for placement from September to December apply no later than June 15.

You can also reserve your spot in the program by writing to the program officer of your intent to apply in the future.

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Students with above-average academic achievements who have completed at least one work placement can apply. Basic German language skills are mandatory and can be mostly be acquired during a two-semester course at your college. Students from all programs can gain valuable international experience and cultural understanding, which looks very impressive on anyone's resume and might just give you the edge in your future career.

The German training firm provides an excellent free training program in your chosen field, but is not obligated to pay you for the time of your internship.

For more information, contact the OBW Program Office at 1-800-890-0470 by phone, 1-705-722-5158 by fax and rfrisch@gc1.georcoll.on.ca.

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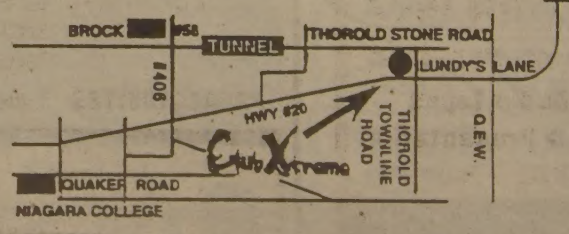

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# Qanon 'likes working with the kids'

By KATHERINE NADEAU
Staff Writer

Ali Qanon says his life experiences have made him empathize with children trying to find their way and he wants to help.

Qanon, 20, of Welland, is a second-year Child and Youth Worker program student at Niagara College.

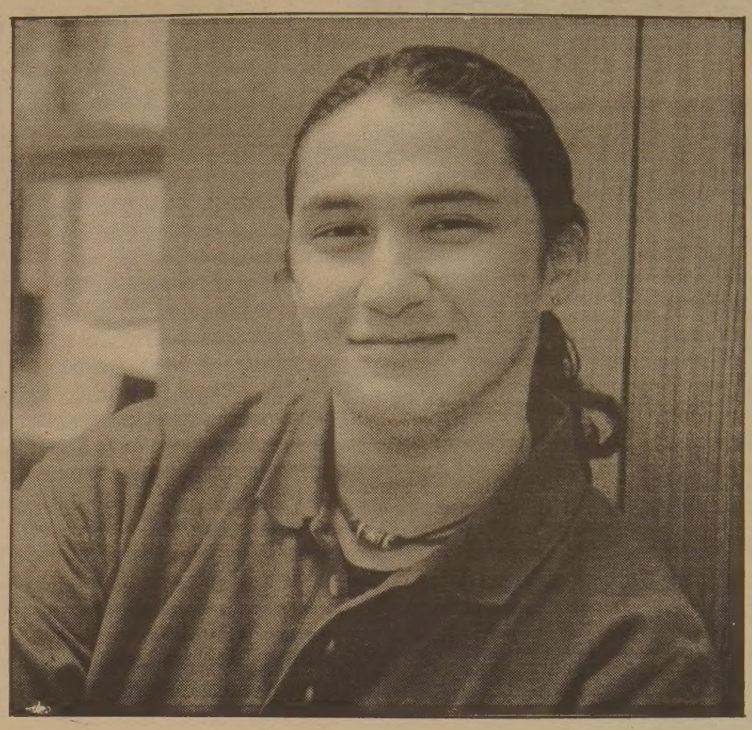
Qanon says he chose the program because he has had a difficult life. Born in Afghanistan, he lived there until he was seven. He and his family lived in several countries before coming to Canada in 1990.

He's interested in psychology, especially how people think and why they do the things they do. He loves helping people and trying to find solutions to their problems.

"I had a hard childhood and I was trying to find out about myself. We moved around a lot and my parents were very busy. It wasn't abusive or anything like that."

As part of his program, Qanon counsels children and teenagers through the Niagara South Parent Support group.

He says he enjoys this because he really "likes working with kids." To him it's important they have someone who cares about them, who listens to them.



Ali Qanon, 20, of Welland, is a second-year Child and Youth Worker program student at Niagara College.
Photo by Katherine Nadeau

"All the kids come of their own free will to talk about their problems. I think they are looking for something. I mean why would they waste two or three hours of their own time coming to this program if they weren't willing to ask for help? Kids have a harder time growing up now. I see kids that are into self-mutilation or are very depressed about the future."

There is one girl Qanon says he has encouraged to express her anger and frustration by writing about it. He says by doing this she expresses herself more.

"As long as she comes (to the group), and she knows she has someone supporting her, I think she'll be OK. She's a very nice kid. She's open to suggestions, . . . she's a strong kid. She doesn't give up."

After working to pay his student loans, Qanon says he plans to attend university to become a child psychiatrist.

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# Patterson 'loves the job'

By JHIM BURWELL
Staff Writer

President Dan Patterson's first year at the helm of Niagara College wasn't always what he expected.

"I found I had more informal dialogue with students," said Patterson.

The formal discussions he expected, with groups such as the Student Administrative Council (SAC) and a successor of the now defunct College Council, "didn't happen as much as (he'd) hoped."

Patterson said his door has always been open to students and he has dealt with personal cases to "the best of (his) abilities."

The President's Advisory Council established a more formal venue to address college issue. After some difficulty setting an agenda and schedule, the council will meet for the first time on April 1 in Simcoe S211, from 12:30 p.m. to 2 p.m., in a "dry run for next year," said Patterson.

"There needs to be a balance between (the president) setting a context and the willingness of students to engage in a dialogue."

Patterson said another avenue he has used to talk with students is the graduation ceremonies throughout the year.

Besides student dialogue, the progress of Niagara College's Master Plan is a priority. Patterson said the plan, including construction of the Glendale campus in Niagara-on-the-Lake and the Welland campus residence, "is coming along extremely well. I'm really pleased with the progress, especially considering the rough financial times over the last year."

***'There needs to be a balance between (the president) setting a context and the willingness of students to exchange in a dialogue.'***

Patterson said he is proud of his record so far, and that he "loves the job, the challenges."

"There is always a wish one could do more in terms of the interface between the president and students because like a good business, the college should always be in touch with the clients."

Patterson said the administration requires "defining moments" so it can listen, react and change for the benefit of the college's students.


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MATH231 (30) Mathematics II for Technology *
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FEES The fees for ENGL011, ENGL045 and ENGL504 will be $113.50
The fees for MATH131, MATH231 and MATH302 will be $227.00
The fees for all other courses listed will be $170.25

MATERIALS Fees do not include the cost of textbooks or other publications which may be required.

LOCATION Section (30) classes will be held at the Welland Campus.
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PREREQUISITES * after the course name denotes there is a preprequisite.

Registration begins March 24.
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If there are insufficient registrations, the course may be cancelled.



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# EDITORIALS

**The Niagara News is a practical lab for the Journalism-Print program, covering the college community and other areas of interest. Opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the management of the Niagara News or the administration of Niagara College. P.O. Box 1005, 300 Woodlawn Rd., Ontario L3B 5S2. Phone (905) 735-2211/ 688-1380/ 384-9760/ 382-2383/ FAX (905) 735-7669.**

**Editor:** Gretta Rossi, **Associate Editor:** Robert Hallett, **Publisher:** Leo Tiberi, director Information and Computer Technology, **Managing Editor:** Phyllis Barnatt, co-ordinator Journalism-Print program, **Associate Managing Editor:** Gary Erb, instructor Journalism-Print program, **Advertising Managers:** Karen Audet, Ron Tufts, advertising instructors, **Advertising-Account Manager:** Ron Crowley, **Photography Consultant:** Carole Timm, photography instructor, **Photography Chief:** Jhim Burwell and Penni Toneguzzo, **Photography Crew:** Jennifer Elliott, Randy Syer, Gord Wittenberg, Derrick Vander-Lely. **Delivery Technicians:** Jeff MacKay and Ryan Barber.

## A self-indulgent society

We are a society addicted to self indulgence.

Commercials longer than 30 seconds are an eternity.

Fast food that takes longer than 30 minutes to deliver belongs in a restaurant.

Unwanted fat? Go to the gym? We don't think so. Get it lypoed.

Pregnancy unplanned and unwanted? Get an abortion.

More and more the human element is being lost to us in a time when it is so desperately needed.

We live in impersonal times.

When was the last time you actually went into a bank and talked to a living breathing person?

We can bank, work, travel, and live through the keys of our computers. Human contact is not valued any longer and we like it that way. That is just a little bit scary.

We are getting what we want almost when we want it, and very few people are considering if it's a good idea.

In some people's eyes, suggesting that there is a problem is ridiculous. After all, look at the advances we can say this generation has produced.

When our advances take us away from what makes us human— the simple interaction we have with one another— can we really call them advances?

Can we afford to let the simple but profound aspects of our lives like love, laughter and friendship fall in to disuse because our hi-tech world hasn't made room for it?

We hope not.

**Gretta Rossi**

## Just another day in Paradise

When children die in Third World countries, the media ignore them. If a politician goes jogging, they all report it.

When music group Motley Crue's drummer, Tommy Lee, married movie starlet Pamela Anderson, most men were glued to the television as the marriage made worldwide news. When a little girl dies in a Third World country, we rarely hear about it. Nobody seems to care.

If movie leading men Brad Pitt or Tom Cruise were to star in a new movie, most women would breathlessly wait for the movie to be released. If a small boy in a Third World country died the same day the movie came out, again it's unlikely we'd hear about it or care.

U.S. President Bill Clinton recently had surgery on his knee. We know because the media reported it more than once. Let's not forget the headline-grabbing murder trials of former Buffalo Bills' football player O.J. Simpson and St. Catharines' Paul Bernardo. Meanwhile, there are hundreds of small coffins lined up in other parts of the world, all united in defeat. What's the headline?

What has this world come to? These children each have a name and are just as important as anyone else in the world (including politicians). What makes politicians so high and mighty anyway? After all they are not God.

No matter what we say or do, the situation never seems to improve. We never see any change in the world. How can politicians think they're succeeding when so many children are dying? How many more will die?

We can't keep letting the tears from a mother's eyes feed her children. This world was not meant to be this way.

**Robert Hallett**

# Four student documentaries provide 'real world' view

**By JENNIFER ELLIOTT**
**Staff Writer**

What's A Canadian Eh?

It's one of the four documentaries being made by third-year film students at Niagara College.

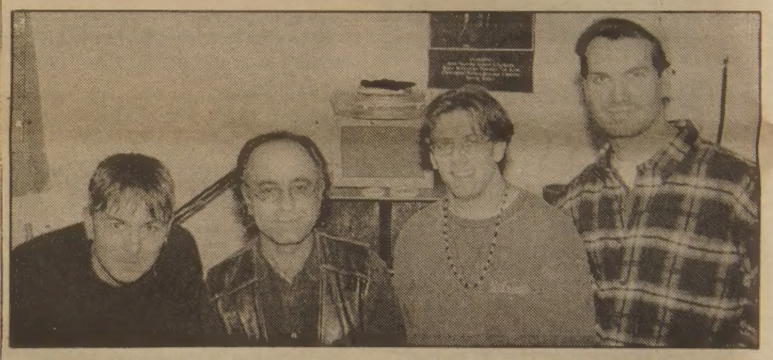
This year Niagara College presents Buskers directed by Kevin Alakas, Glass directed by Josh Grant, Blue Rodeo: Another Day, Another Town, Another Show directed and produced by Derek Ursacki and What's A Canadian Eh? directed by Stuart Harrison.

"As a group, they're the most interesting batch in a few years," says Elias Petras about this year's documentaries. "They're all different with extremely good concepts."

Petras, a film-maker himself, has been teaching film at the college for about 17 years.

He says documentaries have always been part of the program. In the early 1980s, Petras introduced 20-minute dramas into the program, The drama section also covers aspects of the documentary.

The documentaries are to be completed by the end of the term. "They're all coming along well," says Petras.



From left Stuart Harrison, Elias Petras, Derek Ursacki and Kevin Alakas.

**Photo by Jenn Elliott**

The roadstyle film What's A Canadian Eh? is the most advanced considering it had a "low degree of control."

A few shots are still needed to complete the "satire on Canadian image."

"It's been an amazing experience," says Harrison, adding it's been frustrating, but rewarding. The documentary is a "personal journey" and is "definitely character driven."

As for the crew, "they've been as enthusiastic as I've been and I couldn't ask for anything more."

Harrison says the film is into the editing stages, which will require plenty of coffee, long hours and patience.

The Glass documentary is taking a comparative look at detailed and intrinsic pieces which take weeks or sometimes months at time to make with industrial glass makers.

The crew was able to document a famous Russian immigrant who is the only glass artist to have a piece in the Royal Ontario Museum.

"It's not a traditional documentary, but a visual one set to music," says Grant, adding the entire crew couldn't be happier.

Derek Ursacki's successful documentary on Blue Rodeo began eight months ago with a simple letter and a "don't get your hopes up" from Petras.

"Blue Rodeo is a private band and Derek has really managed to get close to these guys," says Petras, adding Derek has been a fan of the group for about 10 years. "I think that Blue Rodeo was interested in helping Derek because he was genuinely interested as a fan."

So far the crew has shot footage of four performances, Greg Keelor's solo performance, the recording studio and a few interviews with members of the band.

"They have been very co-operative and very nice. They're a down-to-earth bunch of guys," says Ursacki about Blue Rodeo.

The documentary is taking an individual perspective of the band members. "They're six individual guys and together they create one band."

Ursacki says this experience has been everything and more, "a dream come true."

The Buskers documentary is also close to being finished. However, it's "changed its track along the way," says Alakas, adding it has become more of an audio documentary than a visual one.

"Buskers portrays the lives of two people that are similar on the surface but have different interiors." Alakas says that it is demonstrating lifestyles that change from a traditional point of view to an ideal one, and vice versa.

The whole idea behind the dramas and documentaries is to give as close as possible a feel for the real world. "Students coming out of school will have a smooth transition into the industry."

Besides having these films in their portfolios, the documentaries are entered in various film competitions like TVO's Telefest, which includes all film and television schools across Ontario, the week-long Images festival and the Montreal Film Festival in the student component.

"All of the competitions are publicly viewed, so a lot of people are seeing these independent films," says Petras, adding Niagara College has won a few first-place awards in the past.

"All of the crews are working well together," says Petras.

He says with smaller crews it's more intense and the students are facing things together. "I can't be with the crews all the time so the students are fending for themselves. It's a great maturing process."

# FROM THE HIP

## Life bonding

By JEFF GARRETT
Staff Writer

As the end of term approaches, I, as do many other people, ask the question, now what?

It's not uncommon for college graduates to worry about the future.

I fit the typical college stereotype of spending time with friends and consuming Canadian beer, as I found myself doing last night.

I began to realize how traumatic a life change it is shifting from high school to college.

Personally, I first found it depressing to be separated from companions I've spent my life with and to be entering an unknown world.

After two years of adaptation, I found my niche in Niagara College's Journalism-Print program and am satisfied.

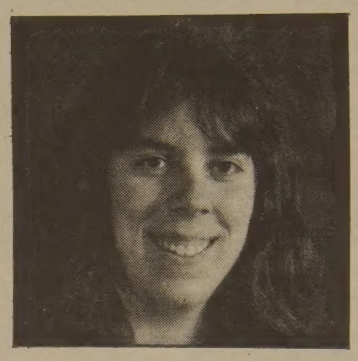
While I was partaking in some friendship bonding, it occurred to me I'll soon be parting with my colleagues again, and entering the third stage of my life — my career.

I've often thought of continuing my education so I have a guaranteed direction in life, but, unfortunately, I have a phobia of financial debt. How ironic.

In a way friendship is a rude awakening in life and a sad joke played on mankind. It's inevitable you maintain a close bond with only about 20 per cent of the people you meet in life and the rest of the percentage is stripped away throughout your life.

I hope I can develop as strong a bond with future co-workers as the ones I have developed with my college companions.

## Pet store needs responsibility



By JENNIFER HARDING
Staff Writer

Irresponsibility is rampant.

Sometimes, there are few consequences. Other times, it is a matter of life or death.

Let me relate my story.

An increasing number of pet stores are opening in Ontario. They charge outrageous prices for the pets they sell. Some have no regard for the health of the animals.

Last Christmas, we bought two kittens, at $150 each, from one of the most reputable pet store chains in Toronto. They were from separate litters, but were caged together in the store.

My family has two other cats, adopted from the humane society. Both are in perfect health and thriving.

When one of the pet store kittens was about eight months old, he was diagnosed with asthma. This is not a life-threatening condition. He may outgrow it still, but it made me wonder.

The other kitten we bought was always extremely small. He was quieter and more laid back than the others. At one-year-old he reached his peak weight — six pounds. A regular cat weighs 10 to 12 pounds.

At nine months old, he developed the feline equivalent of Chrone's disease. With a special diet he began to improve.

Then at Christmas this year, he stopped eating. It was finally found, through blood work, he had feline infectious peritonitis, a debilitating and deadly virus. Luckily, he improved.

Our veterinarian determined that since our other pet store kitten didn't have the virus, it was inherited from the ill kitten's mother.

It would have cost almost nothing to run a blood test on the mother to detect hereditary diseases and other viruses.

It should be the store's reponsibility to make sure they're selling the healthiest animals they can. It doesn't take much to do this.

I will never buy from a pet store again.

*Dedicated to Huckleberry, Sept. 27, 1995 — March 16, 1997.*

***'The store should be responsible for selling the healthiest animals they can'***

## 'Mother knows best'

By PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

People don't realize how fragile a child's life is.

A friend of mine has been going through a custody battle with his ex-wife for more than four years.

On numerous occasions, my friend's ex-wife has failed to give the child to him on visitations.

He has brought her to court and the judge simply did nothing.

My friend's lawyer told him the main reason they would not give him custody is because he is a man.

This child has been neglected by his mother emotionally, mentally, and physically on more than one occasion.

Is it really in the best interest of the child to stay with his mother?

Is justice really served in our court system?

It disturbs me to know that our court system takes a child's welfare and life as a joke.

Cases dealing with children should be looked into with a very serious approach.

Enough of this "mother knows best" so give the child to her.

Obviously, this mother is not suitable of taking care of this child, never mind the other two she has from her second marriage.

Give custody of the child to the father. He is a hard worker, and a good provider and treats his child with respect, love and care. Yes, I've seen it with my own eyes.

He lives in a good end of town in a fully furnished home. That's more than I can say for her.

The KEY factor is the child wants to live with his father.

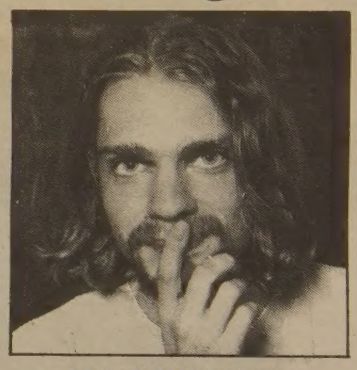
For our court system, stating the obvious is to hard to understand.

Considering the years of schooling it takes to be a judge, you'd think they might have learned something.

I guess not!

***Dedicated to my friends Glenn, Tracy and my little bud, Kyle.***

## Living the dream



By BRIAN HALLETT
Staff Writer

Academic classes are ending for the students of Niagara News.

All of my college friends from 1993, my first year here, are no longer attending the school. I started in the Broadcasting, Radio, Television and Film program.

My first-year friends have dropped out because of low marks or poor financial situations.

I don't get a chance to talk to them often, but I do try to keep in touch. Some are on welfare, some are working in low-paying jobs struggling to pay the bills.

I can't help but wonder if this is what is in store for me. My friends tell me jobs are hard to find and when you do find a place hiring, you seem to be competing with every Tom, Dick and Bill Gates in town.

I am hoping that with my education I will be able to live on a comfortable income and live the American dream.

My friends are pulling for me and they hope I do reach my goals. However, they remind me jobs are hard to find. Reality sets in.

What if I can't find a job?

My education means nothing to a social worker who may give me just enough money to get by, or to the corner gas station owner who pays minimum wage for 20 hours a week.

I want to be a photographer. My goal is to be working for a company which does sittings, weddings and special events.

Our program, Journalism-Print, has a work placement at the end of our final term. I'm hoping I can impress the employer with my work ethic, willingness to learn and the talent I may or may not possess.

In the end, will my education make a difference between my lifestyle and that of my friends who never graduated from college?

## Letter to the Editor

## Graduate praises journalism staff

Dear Editor:

I was cleaning out some junk I've accumulated when I came across a copy of Alumni Niagara and thought it was a good idea to write a note of thanks to Niagara College, and to hopefully get on the mailing list for the publication if it still exists — or any other similar ones.

I graduated from the Journalism-Print program in 1993.

I would like to praise Niagara College in general for providing an affordable and practical education in terms of time and content.

Specifically, I would like to thank (program faculty members) Phyllis Barnatt, Austin Jelbert and Gary Erb for their tireless efforts, infinite patience and focused attention to detail.

Their efforts helped prepare me for immediate entry into the newspaper field, where I moved from weekly newspapers to daily newspapers, arriving in Austin, Minn., in May 1995.

Currently, I am a technical writer for Land O' Lakes in Faribault, Minn.; a journalism faculty adviser at Riverland Community College in Austin; and the sports information director for the Southern Minny Stars, Austin's entry in the Prairie League of professional baseball.

I also do some freelance sports writing for several daily newspapers in southern Minnesota and magazines statewide. I have also created newsletters on a freelance basis for individuals and groups in Minnesota.

Thanks for any help you can give me in getting this message out and learning about what became of my classmates and fellow Niagara College grads.

**Sam Aselstine, 200 14th St., N.W., Austin, Minn. 55912**

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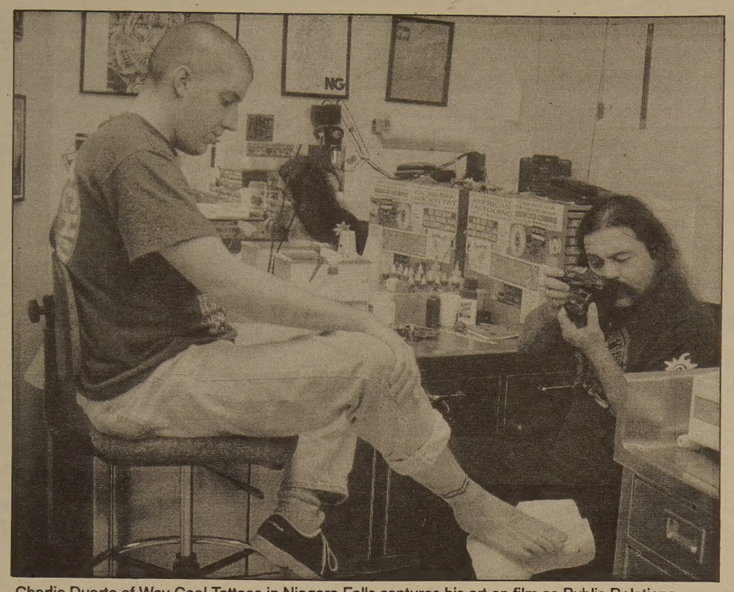
# IN THE SPOTLIGHT

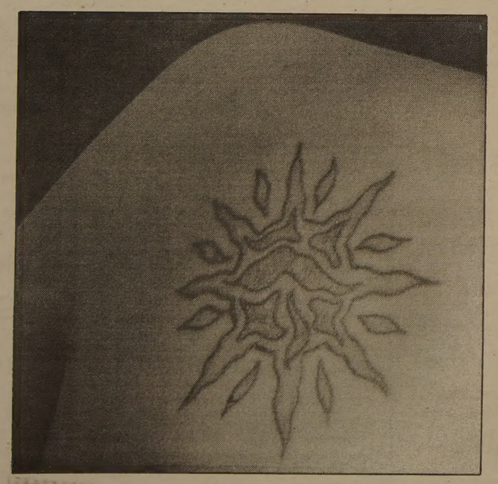


Charlie Duarte of Way Cool Tattoos in Niagara Falls captures his art on film as Public Relations program student Jeff MacKay looks on.

**Photo by Carole Timm**

Cashmere, guitarist for St. Catharines' band Rumble Devils, shows off his tattoo.

**Photo by Tanya Bryan**



Model and design: Jennifer Elliott

**Photo by Randy Syer**

## *Express yourself through ink*

**By RANDY SYER**
**Staff Writer**

Like a human soul, tattoos remain until the body ceases.

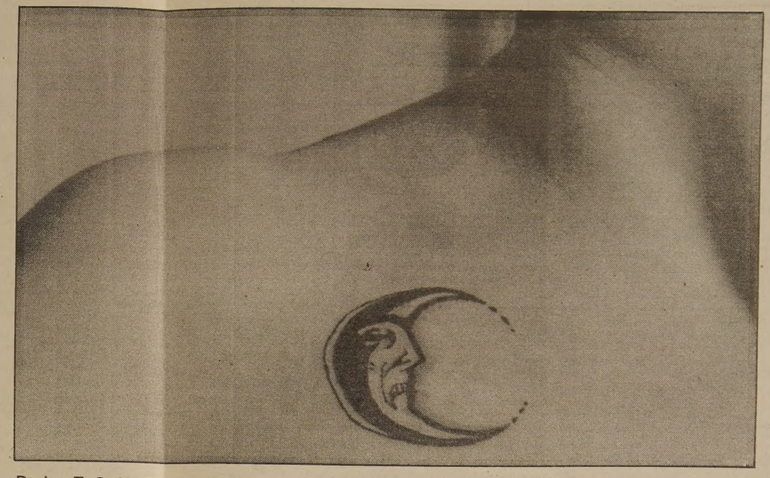
Many people still find tattoos to be disgusting to look at and a waste of money. However, the popularity of the tattoo in recent years is breaking down the stigmas attached to them. Today, having a tattoo represents individualism.

There is no difference between a tattoo and a personality trait a person carries until death. Both characteristics are often permanent.

Greed, ignorance, deceit and jealousy are tattoos "of the soul." How ugly. Why not decorate your body with beautiful patterns to make yourself happy?

After all, the tattoo is for you and not the general public. People fear getting tattoos because they are permanent.

Why not get a tattoo and then worry about those awful "tattoos of the soul," the ones that can be removed or be replaced with more beautiful characteristics?

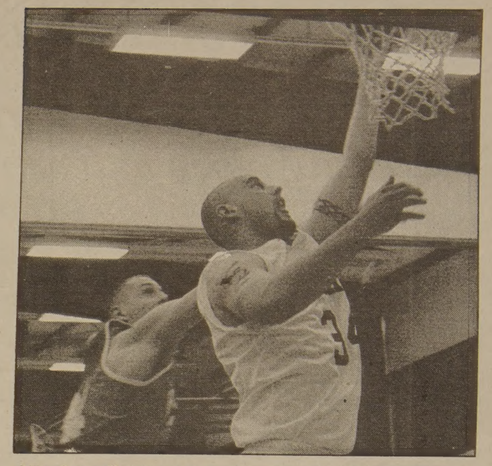


Design: Ty Smith, Tattoo: Justin Winstanley, model: Keri-Lynn Smith

**Photo by Gretta Rossi**

Tattoo: Jimbobway, Heads Tattoos in Niagara Falls, model: Penni Toneguzzo

**Photo by Gretta Rossi**



Mike Conradi's tattoos personalize his uniform.

**Photo by Randy Syer**

Orchid tattoo: Em, Way Cool Tattoos, Scottish crest: Brian, Artistic Impressions, models: Keri-Lynn Smith, Richard Mancuso

**Photo by Gretta Rossi**

Journalism-Print program student Richard "Poncho" Mancuso checks out a work in progress by Justin Winstanley at Artistic Impressions in St. Catharines.

**Photo by Keri-Lynn Smith**

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

# Two local women 'took the plunge' overseas

## No better place to learn, exciting place to teach

By HYOJEONG KIM
Staff Writer

Travel. Use your mother tongue. Make money.

Teaching jobs in Asia will provide all of these.

"You'll share a lot of ideas and experience with (students)," says Susan Vandenboom, coordinator of Niagara College's English as a Second Language (ESL) program.

Vandenboom, 36, of Fonthill, taught English in Sagamihara, Japan, for two years from 1988 to 1990.

"I really wanted to travel. We were learning a lot more about Japan on news (at that time), and there were a lot of job opportunities in Japan," she says.

Graduating from the University of Western Ontario, in London, Ont., Vandenboom says she applied for a teaching job in Japan. While waiting for the answer, she was hired as a French teacher in Oakville, Ont.

After one year there, Vandenboom realized it wasn't what she wanted to do, she says.

She reapplied, successfully, for work in Japan.

"Working conditions were very different from what I was used to," she recalls. "We (teachers) were not allowed to see students outside of class because (my boss) was afraid that we would have private students. We were not allowed to take (text)books home because he was afraid that we might use them for our private students."

SUSAN VANDENBOOM

"But the teaching part was great. You get to know a lot about students. And living conditions were excellent."

For the first year, she says, she lived in a "small, dirty apartment," but, the next year, she moved into a new apartment because her "boss" got to "trust" her.

Others in the profession concur. "The best part of my job is helping people to learn, who want to learn, and watching them improve," says Christie Salmon, a former Niagara College ESL teacher, on teaching English at Andong National University in Andong, Korea, since January.

"It is so exciting to see a person's expression when they understand something they have been trying to figure out."

Salmon, 26, of St. Catharines, says she got to know "a lot" about Korea while teaching here. Her family has had "the wonderful experience of hosting two Korean students" who studied at Brock University.

"I felt it was time for me to take the plunge and go overseas. I felt I was as ready as I would ever be," says Salmon.

After she decided to go to Korea, "I studied the map . . . from top to bottom and carefully planned out where I would like to live. I also read many, many books about Korean culture."

Salmon says Andong University provides a furnished single apartment and a furnished office with a computer for each foreign instructor. "I am very lucky to have this job."

The biggest problem for her is "being homesick."

She says Andong is a very conservative city, and "people here are not used to seeing foreigners. Therefore, I get stared at a lot, pointed at a lot. That is probably the only thing that really bothers me here."

***'I really wanted to travel' - Vandenboom***

Salmon says she will come back to Canada next January when her one-year contract is completed.

"I'm very happy here in Andong. The city is the heart and soul of Korean tradition and culture. For a foreigner, there is probably no better place to learn traditional customs."

### How to teach overseas

**Looking for teaching jobs in Asia?**
**Keep in mind the following information:**

**1. Learn about the country where you want to go: its geography, weather, culture, customs, food, language, currency and people.**

**2. Find as much information as you can before approaching agencies: embassies in Ottawa or consulates in Toronto, the web site and people who have taught English overseas or lived in Asia.**

**3. Check the location of the institute for which you will work, working conditions (including health care) and living conditions.**

**The first, and perhaps biggest problem, is culture shock causing you to become homesick.**

## Everything's Rosey this year

By HEATHER BURTON
Staff Writer

Bonnie Rose has had "a busy year" at Niagara College.

"This is such an incredible time for the college," says Rose exuberantly.

Since joining Niagara in May 1996, replacing David Schleich as vice-president, academic, Rose says a lot of her time has been spent "delivering education" to more than 5,000 students.

"We're watching the quality of what we do at the college and keeping it as high as possible. We're watching the changing world around us, (with regard to) standards and regulations."

This year, Rose has spent time on various projects developing academics at the college.

"We're doing academic planning in a new kind of way," says Rose.

By integrating programming, Niagara College students are given the "maximum use" of their program.

"We have to train people to succeed in the workplace and determine what kind of edge we can give our students."

Rose and her colleagues are aiming to create "spinoff" courses for various programs to "access what we know at the college."

By analyzing the Niagara Region and discovering the things that "are of most economic importance to the region," the college is able to lend its services in these areas, in effect expanding its curriculum, says Rose.

A major project which Rose has been involved with is course-based registration, which is in the pilot-project stage. Rose says this will allow for "more flexibility for students," as the students would be able to tailor-make their class schedules. "This may be an enriched experience for students," says Rose.

Rose has also been involved with the establishment of various articulation agreements with other institutions, such as a joint international offering with Niagara University, Lewiston, N.Y., and various agreements closer to home with Brock University in St. Catharines.

BONNIE ROSE

Asked how she feels about her role in development at the college, Rose says, "Sometimes it's stressful because we're so busy, but it is also exciting because of all the opportunities before the college."

Her goals for the future of the college are to "maintain a focus and keep an eye on the prize — quality education."


# PRESIDENT'S ADVISORY FORUM

## Open to All Students and Staff

Tuesday, April 1, 1997
from 12:30 to 2:00 p.m.
Merritt Wing, Welland Campus
Room ME113

There will be a presentation by
Dan Patterson, President, Niagara College
followed by an opportunity for questions
from the audience.

This is the first in a series of forums,
sponsored by the President's Advisory Forum
Steering Committee, which will be held at
different times and locations
throughout the year.

# EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

**St. Catharines Association for Community Living invites you to**

# Enjoy your life more- being part of another's

a United Way Agency

**We**, at the St. Catharines Association for Community Living have a number of ways you can fit into our picture. **Career opportunities, paid and volunteer positions are offered.** You are invited to consider the opportunities offered in the selections below. Once you have chosen the option you find of greatest interest ...

## CALL TO SEE WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU !

## Where do YOU fit in our picture?

### HOMESHARE

*Open your home and heart to someone who has a developmental disability.*

*Receive:*

- **daily monetary compensation (tax free)**
- **annual vacation and regular relief**
- **ongoing training**
- **additional supports**

**Selected* Homeshare Providers offer room, board and supervision.**

(*There is an initial screening process, however no specific education or experience is required).

**For further information call:**
**688-5222 Ext. 232**

### PROVIDING RESPITE

*Relief for families with a child or adult who has a developmental disabilty and live in St. Catharines, N.O.T.L. and surrounding areas.*

As a **Respite Sitter** you provide a break for families within their own home.
As a **Respite Host Family** you open your home to provide relief

*Receive:*

- **monetary compensation (tax free)**
- **ongoing training**

**Selected* Respite Providers will be matched to care for others with similar interests**

(*There is an initial screening process, however no specific education or experience is required).

**For further information call:**
**984-5524 Ext. 244**

### VOLUNTEERING

*Volunteers are recognized as a valuable resource within all Association Programs; enhancing the quality of support we are able to provide to persons who have a developmental disability. Although it is expected that you will provide a specific service to the best of your ability, all efforts will be made to fulfill your needs for volunteering.*

*Volunteers have the opportunity to enjoy the following rewards:*

- **personal development & friendships**
- **work/career experience**
- **sense of satisfaction & contribution to your community**

*Volunteers are welcomed in many areas:*

- **Fundraising**
- **Board of Directors**
- **Leisure Buddy**
- **Transportation**
- **Special Events**

**For further information call:**
**688-5222 Ext. 259**

### SPECIAL SERVICES AT HOME

*Special Services at Home is a Ministry of Community and Social Services Program that provides one to one workers for persons with a developmental disability*

*Receive:*

- **hourly wage**
- **ongoing training and additional supports**
- **career opportunities**
- **work experience**

**Selected* Special Services at Home Workers have the opportunity to assist another person in attaining their goals**

(*No special qualifications are required however you must be 16 years or older).

**For further information call:**
**984-5524 Ext. 237**

# SPORTS

# 1996-97 college sports season almost finished

By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

When you're hot, you're hot. When you're not, you're not.

Niagara College's varsity sports are almost done for the 1996-97 season. In the later parts of the season, some teams were looking for the playoffs while others were struggling to win a game.

***'I thought it was a great year. We had a good run during the middle of the season'*** ***Flindall***

There was no hotter team than the college's men's basketball team. The Knights went through 1997, winning six of eight including a stretch of six straight wins to end the season.

They started 1997 with a win against Ancaster's Redeemer College, but because of a misunderstanding concerning a player's eligibility, Niagara was stripped of the win.

This setback didn't faze Niagara as the Knights won six straight victories on the team's way to a quarter-final playoff game at Hamilton's Mohawk College.

This hot stretch included a 97-68 win over London's Fanshawe College in Niagara's last game of the regular season at home on Feb. 21. Prior to the game, Niagara honored third-year senior Derek Flindall as part of a senior's night celebration.

Niagara did, however, lose in the playoffs against Windsor's St. Clair College 94-89.

"I thought it was a great year. We had a good run during the middle of the season, but tonight we just couldn't get it done against St. Clair," said team captain Flindall.

Niagara's all-star guard Mike Harris finished second in scoring in the Ontario Collegiate Athletic Association (OCAA) Western Region with 22.4 points a game (ppg).

***'The team's inexperience was clearly evident from the start of the match and throughout its entirety'*** ***Cudmore***

Niagara's men's volleyball team had a roller-coaster ride throughout its 1997 season.

Niagara went 4-3 through '97 and lost in the first round of the playoffs against Ottawa's Algonquin College.

"The team's inexperience was clearly evident from the start of the match and throughout its entirety," said head coach Blair Cudmore after the Algonquin loss.

"Skill-wise, we were prepared. However, the team couldn't execute during key stretches in the match."

A positive for Niagara College was the selection of Pat Deschambeault as an OCAA league all-star. Deschambeault finished second in scoring in the Western Region.

In women's volleyball action, Niagara waited for the last game of the season before the team won its first game.

"We finally started to play good defence," said head coach Carolyn Schatz, after Niagara's three games to one victory. "Reaction time was much better. They're digging, getting hungry and picking up loose balls."

Niagara's women's basketball finished its OCAA Western Region schedule with two wins and 12 losses.

Manie Roy lead the way for Niagara, finishing second in OCAA Western Region in scoring, averaging 17.7 points a game.

"I think the girls try to look at it in a positive way," said assistant coach Tara Petrachenko after a loss against Toronto's Humber College.

# Men's basketball team's winning streak ends in playoffs

By RANDY SYER
Staff Writer

Getting into foul trouble early and often as well as not being able to convert on the free throw line spelled defeat for the Niagara College's men's basketball team.

Before about 50 fans, who travelled to Hamilton, Niagara lost 94-89 against Windsor's St. Clair College on Feb. 28 at Mohawk College.

"The story of the game, I guess, was free throws. We missed 16 free throws," said an upset head coach Randy Conlon.

"Last time we played these guys (St. Clair) we beat them by 10. We go 26 from 29 from the free throw line."

Conlon said if Niagara had hit half of the free throws they missed, they could have won the game.

"I'm very proud of the guys. It was a hell of a game. It was a great game back and forth all the way. They did the job at the line, St. Clair, and we didn't and we lost," said Conlon.

Leading the way for Niagara was Mike Hurley who scored 20 of his 27 points in the second half. Mike Harris scored 19 points, including nine points from the three-point line.

The Knights had two of their five starters on the bench for most of the second half because of foul trouble. Team captain Derek Flindall scored 12 points, but fouled out along with Pete Mosley early in the second half.

The loss marked the end of a Niagara winning streak that streched over the second half of the season. Niagara won its last six games and won seven of eight in 1997.

"I thought it was a great year. We had a good run during the middle of the season, but tonight, we just couldn't get by St. Clair," said team captain Derek Flindall, who played his last game as a Knight.

Niagara finished the season 7-5, Conlon's best record as the Knights' head coach.

"These guys in that change room could've rolled over and died at 1-5. We were 1-5. They could've gone to bed and said, hey, let's go get drunk and have some fun," said Conlon. "They didn't. We fought back and won seven out of eight including six out of six to finish the season."

He said the team realized what it takes to win and that "they stuck together like they were a family.

"Best season of my life in any sport," said an emotional Conlon.

Although the game was held in a neutral court (Hamilton's Mohawk College), Niagara had somewhat of a home court advantage as a fan bus travelled to Mohawk to cheer on Niagara.

"It was awesome. I'm so proud of them. I want to thank Carolyn for getting it going because she's done so much for it," said Conlon. "But the fans were great. I thank them. There's not enough I can say to thank them. I thought it was super."

About 50 Niagara die-hards cheered the Niagara men's basketball team from start to finish.

Although Niagara lost in the end, they "appreciated the effort," said Conlon.

"The fan support was great. We really appreciated it," said Flindall. "It's too bad we didn't have them through the whole year. It would've been nice for them and it would've been nice for us. We like to thank all our fans for all the support they gave us."

# Sports banquet held at After Hours

Staff Writer

More than 350 Niagara College athletes are invited to the 28th annual athletic banquet scheduled for Tuesday, March 25, at After Hours at the Welland campus.

Athletes from 10 teams are welcome to attend the awards and banquet night, set to begin at 6 p.m.

Here is the list of athletes and their respective teams.

**Men's basketball:** Derek Flindall, Mike Harris, Kofi Boateng, Mike Hurley, Stephen Dever, Jerry Ferguson, Pete Mosely, Jeff Eden, Mike Conradi, Andy Medhurst, Jason Smith, Mark Sutherland and Dave Phillips.

**Women's basketball:** Andrea Flindall, Michelle Pring, Trinity Smith, Stephanie Lawson, Amanda Legedza, Stephanie Kranjec, Kim Sherwood, Amanda Duncan, Ingrid Wells, Manie Roy and Carrie McGillivray.

**Men's volleyball:** David Rode, Rob Snoddon, Stacey Kay, Chris Wiersma, Pat Deschambeault, Adam Bell, Graham Goss, Kerby Bentley, Shawn Reimer and Paul Clark.

**Women's volleyball:** Karen Kennedy, Cindy Jarry, Jessie Kelly, Tanja Mrkalj, Meredith Sharpe, Carrie Breddy, Andrea Rive, Laura Chatterton, Megan Roose and Phyllis Corbiell.

**Men's indoor soccer:** Anwar Ahmed, Rene Arnold, Peter Ault, Luciano Berardocco, Paul Bozak, Jeff Forrest, Ian Kawryluk, Matt Ireson, Mark Kozier, Sam Mahrouse, Scott Meller, Graham Scott, Jarek Tobur, Ivan Gulic, Jonathan Sotles and Greg Latanik.

**Women's indoor soccer:** Laura Chatterton, Connie Gardner, Belinda Sworik, Carrie Barclay, Norma Gibson, Eileen Northcotte, Becky Read, Cheryl McKay, Christine Audit, Laura Brandt, Lorianne Eggink, Andrea Flindall and Trinity Smith.

**Touch football:** Gary Bartok, Todd Bartok, Larry Bone, Gerald Dixon, Chris Dobson, Glenn Farnan, Steve Grujic, Andre Hebert, Marc LeBlanc, Tom Marazzo, Scott Martin, Andrew Medhurst, Peter Mosley, Richard Pierias, Don Provan, Andrew Rivers, Craig Salmon, Dave Santarella, Jeff Servos and Randy Syer.

**Golf:** Frank Grsic, Jay Jewett, Chris Poulouski and Matt Richardson.

**Curling:** Tara Clark, Melanie Rodrigue, Scott Banner, Carlos Pena and Jason Stelmaschuk.

**Badminton:** Christine Audit, Ed Bailey, Stephen Moran, Daniel Magwood, Derek Lee, Marcia Feddes, Clem Fiset, Kelly Lanthier and Steve MacPherson.

***A complete story and photographs will be published in the next edition of the Niagara News on Friday, April 4.***

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# Journalism students visit 'bizarre' building in Ottawa

By MELISSA LABBE
Staff Writer

A "bizarre" building was among the stops for 12 Niagara College travellers on a three-day trip to Ottawa.

The second-year Journalism-Print program students, Carole Timm, photo-journalism teacher, and Roy Timm, a professional photographer, journeyed to the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography (CMCP) to see the exhibits, not the building's unconventional architecture. The building was dubbed bizarre not because of its exhibits, but because it was built in an old railway tunnel.

Cathryn Hoffman, interpreter, guided the group on a tour of the museum's two feature exhibits: the works of Michel Campeau and Michael de Courcy. She acquainted everyone with the museum by sharing her in-depth knowledge of its history.

The museum opened in 1992, seven years after the photography division separated from the National Film Board of Canada.

Hoffman said the CMCP maintains the board's goal "to get the work out to the people." The museum houses more than 5,000 pieces (prints and negatives). It changes exhibits every two to three months. In total, the museum has five or six exhibits on tour throughout North America and Europe.

The museum doesn't keep any "moving" images or images on CD-ROM programs, of which Carole Timm said, "There's a loss of personalness when you can't physically pick up the photo."

The exhibits of Canadian photographers Campeau and de Courcy look at the community through different perspectives.

"It was a wonderful oppertunity to see how professional photographers document the things around them," said Gretta Rossi, second-year Journalism-Print program student.

The exhibits are part of the museum's presentation of the "family album."

A retrospective on families is shown through family portraits dating to the 1950s. Documentary-style photographs of families became tools in post-Second World War North America "to re-establish a sense of calm (and) restore order," said Hoffman.

Students delved into history in the CMCP's archives with the help of Sue Lagasi, registrar.

Lagasi handled the 20 documentary-style black and white prints with gloved hands. As the group slowly walked around the display table a quiet air settled in the room.

Timm said the purpose of going into the archives was to let students view documentary images close-up. "(My) intention was to give the students the opportunity to recognize high quality printing and understand content."

Cathryn Hoffman poses for a picture in the Canadian Museum of Contemporary Photography.
**Photo by Hyojeong Kim**

The 13 enthusiastic travellers were showered by snowflakes while posing for this group shot.
**Photo by Roy Timm**

Journalism-Print program students Heather Hunter, (left), Samantha Goldwin and Jeff Garrett eyed works of art from the museum's lobby. **Photo by Hyojeong Kim**

Kudos to Spagucci's Restaurant, in the Rideau Centre, for its abundant and tastey food and friendly staff, one of whom helped these Journalism-Print program students by capturing this fun moment on film.

# Observations on 'Circus' Ottawa's Question Period

By HEATHER HUNTER
Staff Writer

Many of Canada's Members of Parliament — who hold the welfare of Canada in their hands — are a bunch of overgrown children who act with a certain greenness that is extremely scary.

Unlike some of my Niagara News co-writers, I'm far from being an expert on politics. In fact, I hardly have a clue as to the complexities of the government running our country.

Now that I've been honest about my ignorance on the topic I'm about to discuss, please note my lack of knowledge doesn't mean I'm not a good judge of the character of many of our MPs.

On March 5, a dozen Niagara College Journalism-Print program students had the experience of observing a House of Commons Question Period in Ottawa. From a front row balcony seat I had a great view of the circus act below me.

As I looked around to watch the proper etiquette of being there and to discover what to do with the phone-like object beside me, I saw an older man listening intently to the phone and laughing.

I picked up my phoneset and realized it was a translation device. From what I had already observed, not only was I not interested in hearing the questioning and debating in English, I also didn't want to hear it in French.

After five minutes, much to my surprise, I began getting a tad bit entertained with the ordeal. The MPs were acting as if Question Period were a schoolyard recess.

A Liberal Party member would call a Conservative Party member a name, getting the Liberal members to bang loudly on their desks, while the Conservatives yelled "Sit down." When one of their party's members made a sarcastic comment, they would nudge one another as if to say "Good one!"

I must say, for my first experience at a House of Commons questioning period, it was memorable.

I did, in fact, learn a thing or two about what the hot topics are in Canada.

However, I still can't understand why politicians need to act like children. Perhaps if they were to take issues seriously, our country wouldn't be in such a shambles.

But hey, what do I know?

A stained glass window radiates soft light into the memorial room of the Parliament Building.

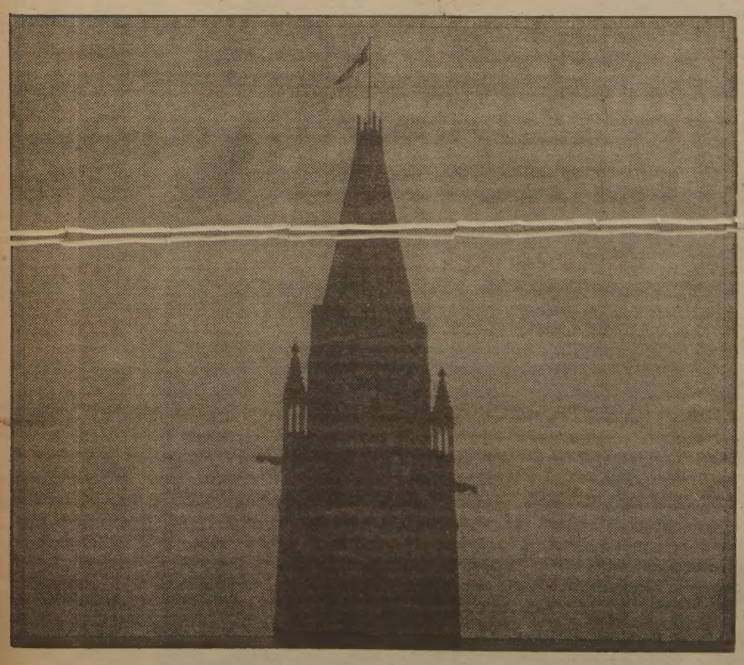
Photo by Melissa Labbe

One of the various architectural buildings in Ottawa.

Photo by Hyojeong Kim

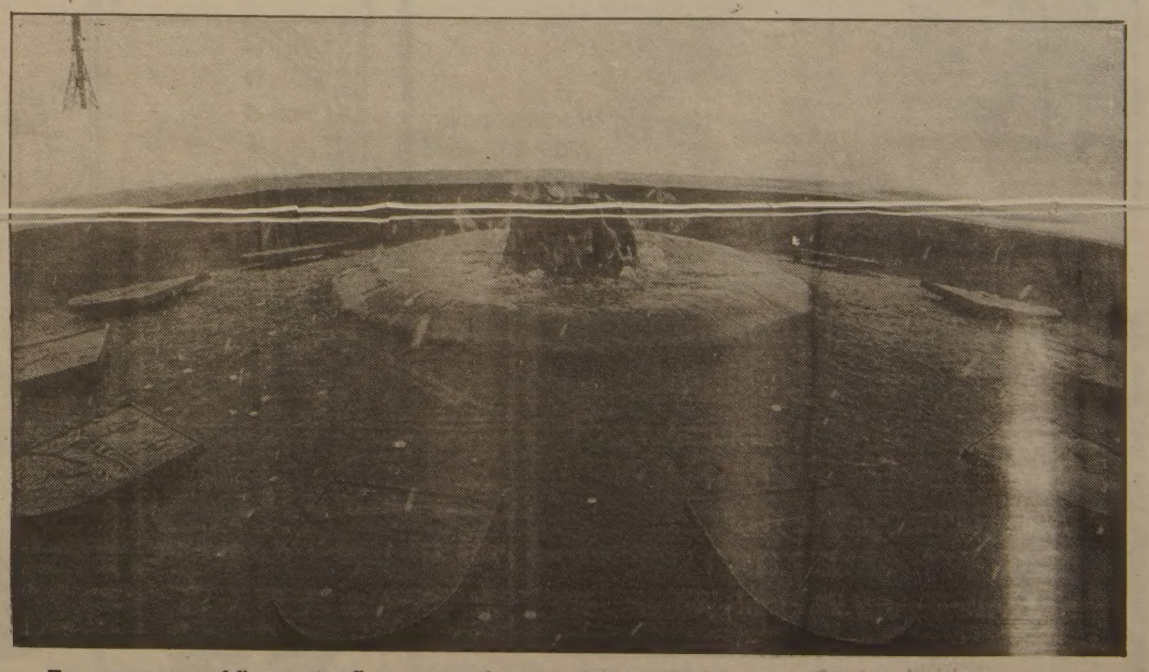
Richard Mancuso (left) and Jeff MacKay braved a snowstorm to visit the National Gallery.

Photo by Carole Timm



The Peace Tower silhouetted against the grey winter sky of Ottawa.

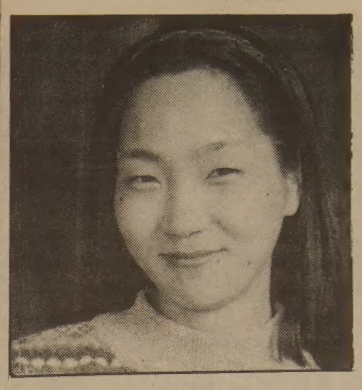
Photo by Robert Hallett



From a centre of fire, water flows over plaques of the province's coats of arms in this fountain.

Photo by Hyojeong Kim

# *Tobacco ideals have gone up in smoke*



By HYOJEONG KIM
Staff Writer

What matters is public health and the Quebec economy. And what really matters is public health.

Let's think about it.

We know smoking makes your life shorter.

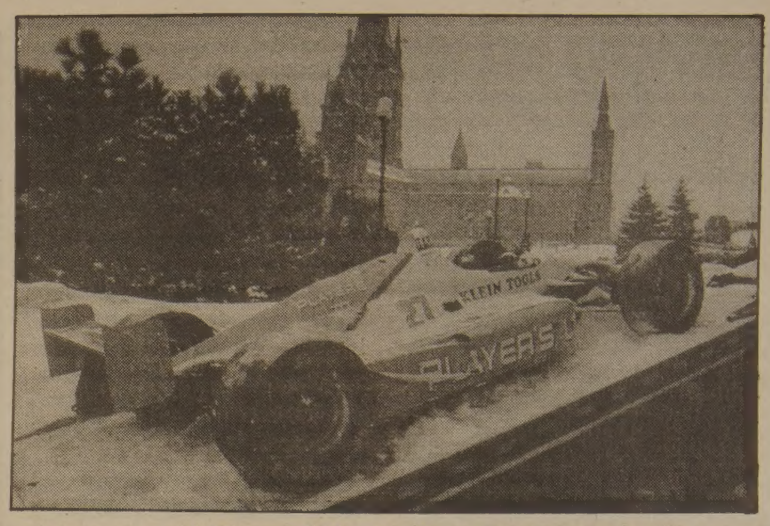
It often leads smokers to serious diseases including cancers. It has killed people. The more important fact is that smoking affects not only smokers but also those who breathe the smoke.

Why should we let tobacco manufacturers lead more people to fatal diseases?

In fact, there is no clear evidence to prove tobacco sponsorship increases smoking or the number of smokers. As we know, some smokers started smoking not only because they were attracted to ads, but also they learned it from seeing other people smoking.

Smokers wouldn't stop smoking because of Bill C-71 unless they want to. They still can smoke outside and in their cars and homes.

Still, I understand this bill might hurt the Quebec economy.




A race car, with Player's Ltd., a tobacco company, advertisement emblazoned on it, was parked in front of the Parliament Buildings in Ottawa. **Photo by Robert Hallett**

The tobacco industry spends more than half of its money ($60 million) on sponsorships in Quebec, especially most of the summer cultural and sporting events including car races in Montreal.

I believe the Liberals are doing the right thing, yet they are standing by only one side — health issue — without any resolution for the other side, which Quebecers will face as a result of the bill.

The Liberals created another controversy between two nations — upper and lower (Quebec) Canada. Bloc MPs say it would have been different if it was another province which would get the most damage.

Personally, I agree with Bloc MPs although I understand these two parties are going towards extremely opposite ends.

I want to tell Canada: if you don't want Quebec to leave Canada, don't isolate it from what you're doing.

Remember, Quebec is part of you.

# Kilted Nova Scotians play 'Plaid' in St. Kitts

By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

Scotty, what's with the men in skirts?

Damn it, Jim. How many times do I have to tell you, they're kilts!

Determined to break into the Ontario market for the first time, MacKeel travelled from Canada's East Coast to perform in some provincial clubs for two weeks.

On March 10, MacKeel played an all ages show at Tremors Down Under (formerly the Hideaway) in St. Catharines, Ont.

About 30 people showed to hear the six-member band play its Celtic pop/rock music with a 1990s edge and attitude.

"We're taking the bagpipes and putting it to something totally different," said Glenn Gordon.

Energetic, up beat, Celtic pop/rock band MacKeel recently performed at Tremors Down Under. **Photo by Robert Hallett**

MacKeel's members have been together for a year and a half. The band consists of Gordon, 25, lead vocals/acoustic guitar; Kevin Brennan, 26, electric and acoustic guitars/vocals; David Hoare, 25, bass/vocals; Randy MacDonald, 24, percussion/vocals; Dane Grant, 23, Highland bagpipes/tin flute/vocals; and Fleur Mainville, 19, acoustic and electric fiddle/vocals.

The band, of Pictou, N.S., released its independent debut CD **Plaid** in October 1996. The CD contains a compilation of 10 songs: five MacKeel arrangements of traditional tunes, and five originals.

*On that Day* is the first single. The CD is the number 1 best seller on the East Coast.

"We're happy with what we've got right now," said Gordon.

"We're looking to break nationally and internationally within the next year or two," said Gordon.

"We've always worked hard at what we do. We're noted for our work ethic," said Gordon.

"We're one of the busiest bands on the East Coast. We have our own unique sound. If we were in it for the money though we wouldn't be doing it," said Brennan.

Gordon said the band wants "to pursue something we all enjoy, performing and entertaining for people."

**Plaid** is available at Sam the Record Man stores.

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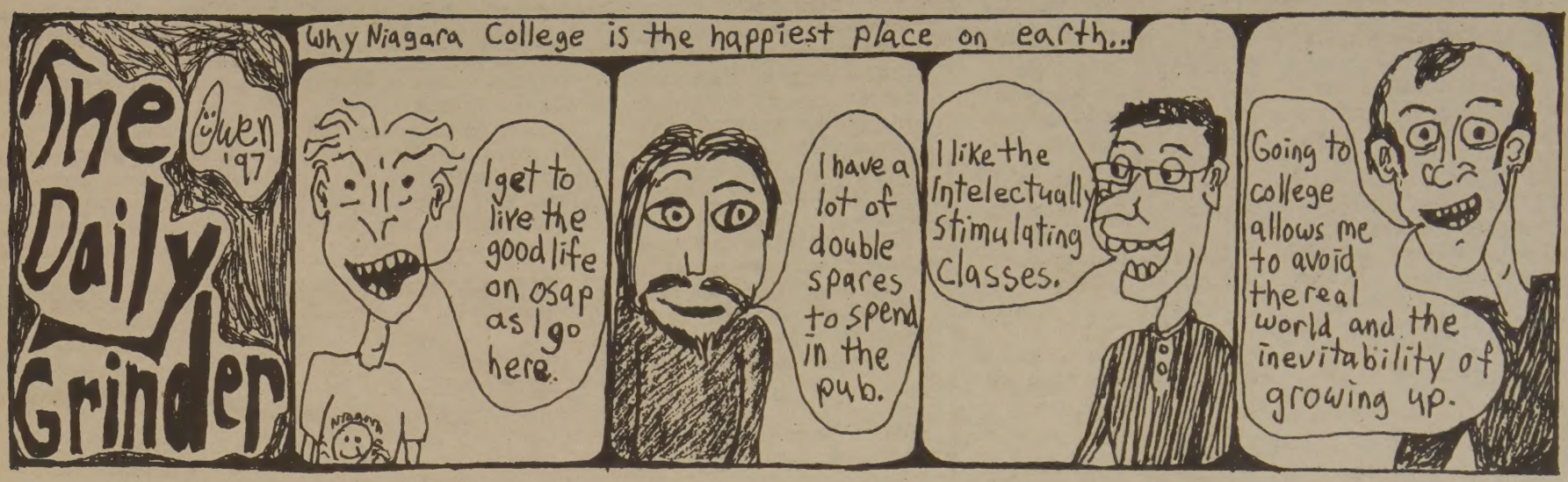
# THE LIGHTER SIDE


The Daily Grinder
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Why Niagara College is the happiest place on earth...
I get to live the good life on osap as I go here.
I have a lot of double spares to spend in the pub.
I like the intelectually stimulating classes.
Going to college allows me to avoid the real world and the inevitability of growing up.

# Aries: A job promotion coming your way

By PENNI TONEGUZZO
Staff Writer

Here are your horoscopes for the weekend of March 21 to March 23.

**Aries** (March 21-April 20): A job promotion is coming your way. Prepare wisely or your life may change dramatically. Lucky numbers: 3, 55

**Taurus** (April 21-May 21): Someone has revealed their true feelings to you. Be understanding and honest towards them. Lucky numbers: 16, 24

**Gemini** (May 22-June 21): Your dreams seem to be making you wonder about the future. Dreams only reveal the truth. Lucky numbers: 19, 81

**Cancer** (June 22-July 22): A friend will be calling you with good news. Be happy for them and talk with them for a while. They need your companionship. Lucky numbers: 5, 77

**Leo** (July 23-Aug. 23): The moon and stars will collide this evening making you feel lonely. Be patient! Your true love is on its way. Lucky numbers: 3, 45

**Virgo** (Aug. 24-Sept. 22): There has been a twist of fate in your path of life. An old friend will ignite sparks of love. Lucky numbers: 17, 42

**Libra** (Sept. 23-Oct. 23): You are feeling run down and exhausted. You need some form of exercise in your life. Lucky numbers: 8, 51

**Scorpio** (Oct. 24-Nov. 22): Your fears are getting the best of you. Relax and don't always think the worst about things. Lucky numbers: 11, 40

**Sagittarius** (Nov. 23-Dec. 21): Pressures of the future are getting on your nerves. Relax and live life day by day. Lucky numbers: 9, 78

**Capricorn** (Dec. 22-Jan. 20): A relationship is coming to the end for you. Don't worry. You will have many exciting relationships in the future. Lucky numbers: 23, 92

**Aquarius** (Jan. 20-Feb. 18): The water and wind will collide this weekend to bring a feeling of sadness upon you. This feeling will pass. Lucky numbers: 15, 67

**Pisces** (Feb. 19-March 20): You have been chosen to conquer a frightful task. You have the inner spirits to guide you. Don't be afraid. Lucky numbers: 6, 19

# Taking a world view by way of the word puzzle

AUSTRALIA
BAHAMAS
BRITISH COLUMBIA
CHINA
COLUMBIA
COSTA RICA
DAYTONA BEACH
EGYPT
ENGLAND
FORT LAUDERDALE
IRELAND
JAMAICA
JAPAN
KEY WEST
KOREA
LAS VEGAS
MEXICO
MOROCCO
PARIS
ROME
SCOTLAND
SICILY
SPAIN
SWISS ALPS

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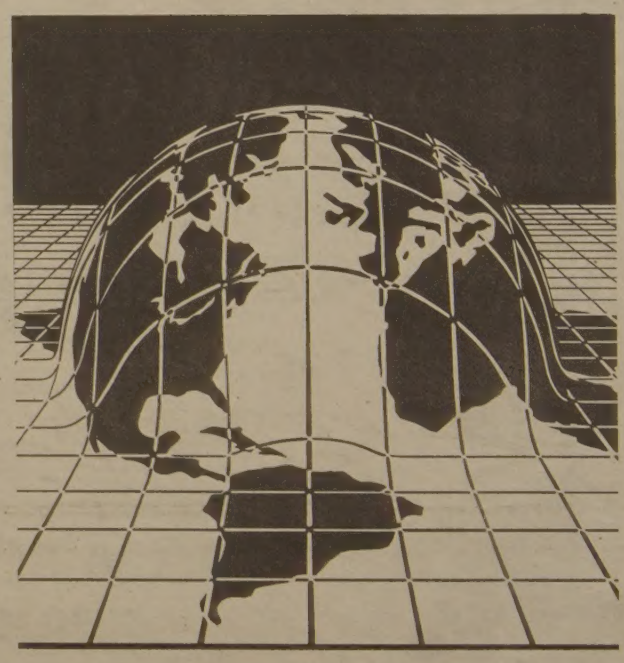


# *Band member explains creation of band's name - Bloody Chicletts*

By ROBERT HALLETT
Staff Writer

From Vancouver come the Bloody Chicletts with their self-titled debut album.

Their new CD consists of 10 short bursts of punk rock songs. The first single is *On & On*. *She's a Freak* and *Kaos* are two other great tracks.

The longest one on the album is four minutes and 16 seconds long. The rest of the songs are less than four minutes long. The CD is short but good.

Glen Reid, vocalist/guitarist/bass, Devin Reschny, keyboards, Gabe Tracey, drums/vocals, Chad Reid, bass/vocals, and special guest from Age of Electric and Limblifter, Kurt Dahle, all play on this album. The CD was produced by Dahle and the band.

Explaining the band's name, "It came from the expression 'I'll give you a mouth full of bloody Chiclets,'" says Reschny.

The band has strong roots in the punk rock era of the late 1970s and early 1980s, but leans toward bands such as Blondie — an unfashionable pop influence in the age of grunge.

Overall, the CD's good; an eight out of 10.

# A balanced lifestyle promotes good health

By JENNIFER HARDING
Staff Writer

Success is something everyone desires. In the quest to achieve it, wellness is compromised.

This is counterproductive — without wellness, succeeding becomes more difficult.

There are a few simple things that can be done to help keep well. They do not take a lot of time or money, and they can make all the difference. Here are some suggestions from a newsletter by the Career Opportunity Information Network.

*Eat foods that are natural, less processed and have few preservatives*

Laughter is the first helpful habit. This contagious and portable skill also massages the inner organs.

Walk for 15 to 20 minutes a day. This can compensate for poor health habits and low energy.

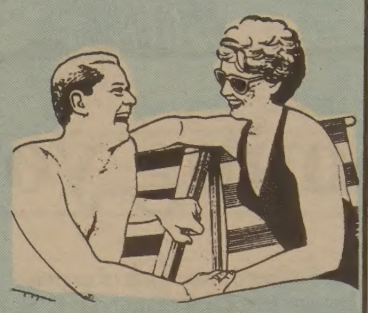
Drink pure, clean water as often as possible. It is cleansing and essential for the body.

Eat foods that are natural, less processed and have few preservatives. Foods that are raw and fresh usually have more nutrients in them and will keep you living longer as a result.

Hugs can be healing. Hug someone you care about; the more the better.

Having good posture makes you look better, and will help you feel better.

On days when it's particularly hard to get moving, take a cold shower. In the morning, this will help you get moving. In the evening, slow down and get ready for bed early and take a relaxing hot bath.



There is no substitute for good physical and mental health. People have to get back to the basics of health in order to progress.

# Covering graffiti a costly venture

By RYAN BARBER
Staff Writer

If you've been to the washroom lately you've seen the writing on the wall. Or is that graffiti in the stalls?

Niagara College is facing a continuing problem with vandalism in the various washrooms throughout the campus.

The majority of the graffiti is offensive and sexist.

Kerry Nicholls, building operations plant and property supervisor, says something has to be done.

"The time and money that's involved in removing it from the stalls is adding up," said Nicholls.

*This summer the college will again repair the washroom stalls, but not with paint.*

Over the years the college has been trying to keep washroom stall vandalism to a minimum. When a stall is heavily defaced, staff are sent out to repaint, but the paint doesn't last long.

"We try to maintain it," said Nicholls. "It is to the point where the further you maintain the level of removing the graffiti, people think it's a joke then come right back and put more on it."

Nicholls said it starts with one piece of graffiti and someone adds to it and then it expands.

Last Christmas four washrooms in Hennepin Hall were painted during the break. On the first week back, Nicholls said all the washrooms had graffiti.

"The first comment on the wall was 'Stall looks great.'"

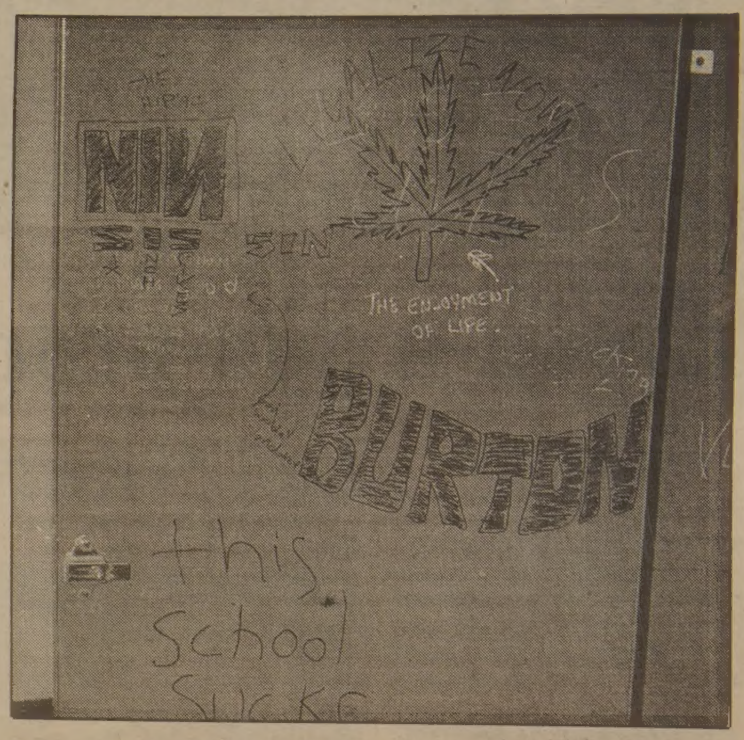
This summer the college will again repair the washroom stalls, but not with paint.

The college plans to use a special laminate finish with little bumps on it to make it hard to deface.

The only problem with the laminate is the cost. Each stall will cost $475 to do and $225 to repaint if they are ruined.

"A lot of the money coming into the college is going back out for vandalism," said Nicholls. "If we can eliminate a lot of the graffiti and vandalism in the washrooms, that money can be used elsewhere."

Punishment for being caught defacing can result in suspension.




A sample of graffiti artists at work.

Photo by Ryan Barber